

Message Text

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14

ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-07 ISO-00 EB-07 AID-05 CIAE-00

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FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4153

INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

USMISSION GENEVA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ESCAP:OCON:TPHY:SU

SUBJ: ESCAP:SOVIET MEMBERSHIP IN TYPHOON COMMITTEE

REF: STATE 26755

1. SOVIETS HAVE NOT YET FORMALLY REQUESTED MEMBERSHIP IN TYPHOON COMMITTEE (TC).
2. ACCORDING TO ESCAP SECRETARIAT (MCCUTCHAN), SCENARIO NOW CALLS FOR SOVIETS TO EXPRESS AN INTEREST IN JOINING TC AT CONCLUSION OF AGENDA ITEM 7 (WHICH SHOULD BE REACHED NOVEMBER 13). TYPHOON COMMITTEE REPORT WOULD THEN MERELY NOTE SOVIET AND ALSO MALAYSIAN DESIRE TO JOIN TC.
3. SOVIETS WERE ORIGINALLY PRESSING FOR REPORT TO INDICATE COMMITTEE "WELCOMES" SOVIET REQUEST, BUT MCCUTCHAN WAS FIRMLY INSTRUCTED BY RUDY GONTHA, ACTING ESCAP EXECUTIVE SECRETARY, TO AVOID COMMITTEE SHOWING ANY SUPPORT FOR SOVIET REQUEST. GONTHA DECLARED RIGHTLY ONLY COMMISSION CAN DETERMINE MEMBERSHIP.
4. CONTENTS REFTEL ALREADY PASSED TO MCCUTCHAN AS WELL AS JAPANESE AND PHILIPPINE REPRESENTATIVES. LATTER TWO WILL ENSURE THAT HONG KONG AND THAILAND ACCEPT REPORT'S NEUTRAL STATEMENT ABOUT

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SOVIET INTEREST IN MEMBERSHIP. MCCUTCHAN IS WORKING ON

MALAYSIA TO ACCEPT BLAND STATEMENT ALSO, BECAUSE MALAYSIA REQUEST
CANNOT BE TREATED DIFFERENTLY.

5. COMMENT: SECRETARIAT AND JAPANESE SOURCES AGREE WITH OUR
ANALYSIS THAT SOVIETS MAKING FINAL ATTEMPT JOIN TC BEFORE MORE
ACTIVE CHINESE PARTICIPATION IN ESCAP AND TC CLOSES MEMBERSHIP
DOOR FOR GOOD.
WHITEHOUSE

NOTE BY OC/T: REFERENCE NOT IDENTIFIED.

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